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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ding *et al.*

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: February 7, 2002

Examiner: To be assigned

For: MEDICAL DEVICE WITH SPONGE
COATING FOR CONTROLLED DRUG
RELEASEAttorney Docket No.: 10177-111-999
Divisional Application of Serial No.
09/060,071 filed April 14, 1998JC979 U.S. PTO
10/07/1400

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references coming to the attention of each individual associated with the filing or prosecution of the subject application, which are or may be material to the patentability of any claim of the application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby direct the Examiner's attention to the references A-O listed on the attached revised form PTO 1449. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of References A-O are not submitted since they were submitted in the parent application serial no. 09/060,071, filed April 14, 1998.

Identification of the listed references is not to be construed an admission of Applicants or Attorneys for Applicants that such references are available as "prior art" against the subject application. Consequently, Applicants respectfully decline to use form PTO-1449, since this form identifies all of the references cited therein as "Prior Art." As an alternative, Applicants submit herewith a "revised form PTO 1449" entitled "List of References Cited" instead of "List of Prior Art Cited."

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, no fee is believed due.

If a fee is required please charge the necessary amount to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the foregoing references and that the references be made of record in the file history of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date February 7, 2002

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Enclosures